

The Word

on the

Riverbank

Volume 16, Issue 2

Holy Week / Easter 2008

Born Again, for the very first time



My article this month is an adaptation from my sermon on the second Sunday of Lent with a new focus on Easter. For those of you who heard the sermon, I hope this will refresh some thoughts and insights for you. For those who did not hear it, I hope that you will take these words to heart.

Some of the most terrifying words that an Episcopalian can hear are in the form of a question. The question is, "are you born again?" It makes many of us run. But how can we ignore the words of Jesus to Nicodemus when he says, "Truly, truly I say to you that unless one is born again (King James version), he cannot see the kingdom of God."? Let us try to understand what it means to be born again and how God is calling us in this way.

The Greek word that is used in this passage is **anōthen** which can be translated in three ways: **again** (KJV), **anew** (RSV) or **from above** (NRSV). All three connotations are essential to our understanding of this new life in Christ.

Which of us have not had a time in our lives that has been a season of heartache or disappointment or suffering? It is then that we need to know the saving grace of God that helps us be born again, for the very first time.

I like to think of this Greek word as meaning "born again, for the very first time." It implies the opportunity to begin anew. This is a wonderful gift for any of us. Which of us have not had a time in our lives that has been a season of heartache or disappointment or suffering? It is then that we need to know the saving grace of God that helps us be born again, for the very first time.

There are three stages to this call to new life:

The first is **forgiveness**. That is to know that God forgives you for your mistakes, your shortcomings, your failures. Part of this stage is to also be able to forgive yourself. So often I talk with people who know that God

... as you come to Holy Week, let yourself be born again ... for the very first time.

loves them and forgives them, but who struggle to forgive themselves. Of course, this also means forgiving those who have hurt you. This spirit of forgiveness is the first step.

The second is **redemption**. It is one thing to know that you are forgiven but it is another to know that Christ has redeemed you and made you a new creation. It is the affirmation that you are not only worthwhile but a child of God who is unconditionally loved.

The third is **renewal**. This is where the term born anew has special impact. Once you are forgiven and redeemed, you must start anew each day. You must be renewed in the Spirit of God. You will then feel that you are born again, for the very first time.

On Ash Wednesday, I asked the question of those gathered for worship, "Will you be different on Easter?" We have journeyed through Lent and now it is time for each of us to be different, to be a new creation in Christ. We are Resurrection people. We are people of new hope and new direction and new life. So as you come to Holy Week, let yourself be born again. Do what you need to do in Lent and Holy week to claim the gift of Easter. Be born again for the very first time. New life awaits.

In the steadfast hope of our Risen Lord,
The Rev. John Palarine
Rector

COOS News

From the desk of the Rector

Clergy Update – I am pleased to announce that I have changed **Fr. Mark Atkinson's** title to *Associate Rector*. Fr. Mark is a great gift to COOS and to me. It is only fitting that we recognize him as my Associate Rector as we share as partners in ministry. I give thanks to God for his presence among us.

The **Rev. Dr. Richard Turk** will be assisting us with services. We welcome him and our so grateful that he is willing to share his gift of preaching and his many years of experience with us.

The **Rev. David McElwain**, who is a full time Navy Chaplain, was ordained to the Priesthood in the Diocese of Eastern Carolina on February 9. He will also be assisting us at the altar as soon as Bishop Howard licenses him to officiate in the Diocese of Florida. Welcome Fr. McLain, and his wife Linda, when you see them.

A Call to Endowment – Since 1994, Church of Our Saviour has had a Foundation. It is time for us to use our Foundation to build funds that insure our future. I am calling for the establishment of endowed funds as living gifts as well as bequests. I am asking for 4 twenty five thousand dollar endowments for 2008 to get us started. These endowments can be set up in memory of someone, in honor of someone or for a special purpose. If you would be interested in this, please contact me and we will set up a confidential appointment. You will be hearing more about our Planned Giving Program in the near future. We have received so much from those who have gone before and it is essential that we provide for those who will come.

COOS NEWS – Shortly we will have an electronic news announcement that will come directly from the Rector informing parishioners of items that need to be communicated quickly. Please send your e-mail address to blalockj@coos.org so that you will receive this important information.

Annual Church Challenge Cup – Save the Date of April 19 for the second **Annual Church Challenge Cup**. This is our annual parish golf tournament. If you are interested in helping with the tournament or in sponsoring a hole, please contact Gary Martz or Dorsey Bates.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, hosted by the J2A class and their parents, is always a festive event with fun and games, and of course lots of pancakes, bacon, sausage, and hash browns!

Alex likes his pancakes plain (right) ... While Fr. John likes to eat his pancakes wearing a silly hat! (below)



Mark your calendars for the April 13 Annual Bailey's Farm Adventure

Every year our Sunday School classes look forward to visiting the Bailey's farm. This year we will meet outside the Great Hall at 9:30 AM on April 13 and caravan together to the farm. While at the farm we will worship together, learn more about God's good creation, and play together before returning to COOS around noon. Children under the age of five must be accompanied by a parent or designated adult. Please call the parish office at 268-9457 or Pam Gillis (ext. 23) or email coosgillis@comcast.net for information.



Christian Formation

Wednesday Evenings after Easter

"We Come to the Table"

Wednesdays, April 2 – 20, 2008

6:30 – 7:30 PM in River Room

"We Come to the Table" is a four week program for children of ages Pre-K thru 5th grade and their parents which will focus on the aspects of our faith which bring us to the communion table each week.

This class will be offered in conjunction with the **First Communion Class** for those children in kindergarten and older. Although participation in the Episcopal Eucharist is open to all baptized Christians, many hesitate to allow children to fully share in this Holy Sacrament without an understanding of what it means. A First Communion class can bridge the gap between baptism and confirmation.

Parent participation is encouraged each week and is required on April 20 for those doing First Communion recognition, which will be held during the 10:30 AM service on April 27, 2008. Please contact Pam Gillis at 268-9457 ext. 23 or email coosgillis@comcast.net for information or registration.



The 2007 First Communion class celebrates with a special cake.

Nursery Care

Free nursery care is always available for children ages birth through Kindergarten during our Sunday morning services and Sunday School hour.

We have two nurseries. Our Infant Nursery is for newborns thru early walkers. (Please enter the Infant Nursery through our Toddler Nursery.) Our Toddler Nursery is for established walkers through kindergarteners. Both of our nurseries are staffed by well qualified workers in a safe and loving environment.

Our nursery is also available during many other parish events. Please check the individual event information to see if a nursery is provided.



RAINFOREST ADVENTURE

Vacation Bible School

Swing into a Rainforest Adventure!

Explore God's Wondrous Love in the Tree Top Canopy

What is it? A week of music, crafts, games and more while learning about our Awesome God.

Who's it for? All 4 year olds - rising 6th graders. (3 year old children of parishioners welcome)

When is it? June 23-27, 9 AM – 12:30 PM;
Family Celebration will be on Friday, June 27 at 6:00 PM

Where is it? Church of Our Saviour

How to sign up? Sign up at the VBS table after Sunday services or return the VBS form to the office.

Aftercare: Aftercare will be available each day from 12:30 – 5:00 PM. Prior registration is required and space is limited. Adult confirmation of aftercare will be required each day at check-in. Participants should bring a sack lunch. An afternoon snack will be provided. Activities include games and crafts. Cost is \$10.00 per child /per day or \$17.00 per family / day. Please see aftercare information sheet and registration forms for more details (available in church office).

Volunteers of all ages, rising 7th graders and over needed!

Please consider donating time, money or supplies to help make this VBS the best yet. We could especially use people who can do at-home preparation before VBS starts. Check the needs list at the VBS table on Sunday mornings after Easter. For information, please contact the VBS Directors Melissa Gostage at 230-1145 and Angela Boyd at 268-9091, or Pam Gillis at 268-9457, ext. 23 or email at coosvbs@hotmail.com.

Youth News

Frances Shults, Youth Director

Doing some Spring Cleaning?



We want your treasures for the Annual Youth Yard Sale, on Saturday, March 29. We would love to help find new owners for those things you no longer need. You may drop off your treasures at the FLC beginning Sunday, March 16 (Palm Sunday). Please no

clothes, broken articles or trash. Proceeds benefit summer youth missions & pilgrimage. Thank you for your support.

Youth are asked to sign up to help sort, tote and tag items for our yard sale from March 17 - 28. Parents, youth & friends of youth are needed on Saturday, March 29 to run our Yard Sale. Watch for e-mails for dates and times to sign up.



Calling all Graduates

We want to recognize the accomplishments of all graduates – Whether it is high school, college, or other professional & trade degrees. If you have a graduate in your family, please call the church office no later than Thursday, May 1 with your graduate's information. Mark your calendar to attend the 10:30 AM service on Sunday, May 18.



Don't Miss Camp Weed!

Camp Weed Summer Camp applications are available on the web at www.campweed.net. Remember all applications require Father John's or Father Mark's signature. Confidential scholarship applications to attend Camp Weed are available through Frances Shults.

Our Vision

"Guide youth to know Christ so they may exemplify His Love in all they do."



Youth collect money to support the Mandarin Food Bank on Souper Bowl Sunday.

Mission News

Tennessee Missioners

Have you sent in your deposit for the Tennessee Mission Trip, scheduled for July 13-July 18? Check with Frances now to see if there is still space to do some awesome mission work as well as some whitewater rafting and a lot of other fun! This mission trip is open to youth who are rising seventh grade through High School. Contact Frances at fbshults@aol.com for details or call the church office.

Navajo Jewelry Sale – Sunday, April 13

Beautiful jewelry and other crafts are being sent to us by the Hummingbird Gallery at Good Shepherd Mission. A portion of the proceeds will benefit our Navajo Mission team while the rest will return to Good Shepherd. This sale is just in time for Mother's Day, Father's Day and Graduation gifts, so mark your calendars and plan ahead!

Memorable Meals for Mission

Thanks to everyone who has supported **Memorable Meals for Mission** through their reservations and participation. Special thanks to all of our hosts who have opened their homes and shared their culinary skills and hospitality gifts with us all.



At the "Football Frenzy" dinner, Jack & Suzi Stone with Susie Lawson (above) and Allison & Randy Bryan (left) display their team spirit in support of our missioners!



VBS Volunteers are Needed

Youth in grades 7 and up, we need your help at COOS Vacation Bible School, June 23 – 27, 2008. Mark your calendars now! A multitude of hands, hearts and smiles are needed to make our VBS special for the children of COOS and the Mandarin community.

For more information, please contact the VBS Directors Melissa Gostage at 230-1145 and Angela Boyd at 268-9091, or Pam Gillis at 268-9457, ext. 23 or email at coosvbs@hotmail.com.

HAPPENING!

Please pray for our COOS youth who will be attending Happening #111 at Camp Weed, April 18-20. Our candidates are Elena Chorpensing, Austin Webb, Sarah Lawson, Matt Tipple, David Kretlow, Kristina Morris, Alex Wayman, Kyle Lemmin, Ellie Longstreth and Frances Shults (Geritol candidate).

Undie Sunday!

Thanks for “dropping your drawers” again this spring on “Undie Sunday” with your contributions of new children’s underwear for Dignity U Wear’s annual collection.

Founded in 2000, Dignity U Wear collects new clothing for men, women and children that is distributed to more than 280 nonprofit agencies in 30 states. Last year, COOS donated just over 800 pieces of children’s underwear. Thanks for making a difference in a child’s life



Way to go Matt!

Congratulations to Matt Tipple who will attend the Episcopal Youth Event (EYE) in San Antonio, Texas this summer as a member of the Diocese of Florida delegation. This is the second largest event in the Episcopal Church and the single largest youth event in the Episcopal Church, typically attended by some 1500 young people, adult sponsors, clergy and bishops. EYE takes place every 3 years.

Youth Ski Trip Fun!



(Above left) They look like skiers, but can they actually ski?

(Center) It was 5 degrees above 0 during the early morning Eucharist.
BRRR!



(Above right) Evan ... and others ... spend time in this position ... thank God for helping hands!

Experience the Passion of Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 16

All services celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the passion of Holy Week

8:00 AM – Rite I Liturgy of the Palms at COOS - Mandarin

9:30 AM – Children gather in the Kid's Word area

10:30 AM – Rite II Liturgy of the Palms begins in the Morrow's field

7:00 PM – Rite II Liturgy of the Palms in the Chapel - Mandarin

Wednesday, March 19

7:00 PM – Tenebrae Service at COOS - Mandarin
The most ancient of rituals of light and darkness, it helps us recall our brokenness as a people.

7:00 PM – *Children's Tenebrae Service* in Room #4

Maundy Thursday, March 20

6:30 AM – Rite II Eucharist in the Chapel at COOS - Mandarin

7:00 PM – Rite II at COOS - Mandarin, Remembrance of the Lord's Last Supper, Footwashing, Holy Communion, Stripping of Altar.

7:00 PM – *Children's Maundy Thursday Service* in Room #4

10:00 PM – The "Watch With Christ" Vigil begins at COOS - Mandarin and continues through the Good Friday service

Good Friday – March 21

12:00 to 3:00 PM – Good Friday Liturgy, sermons, meditations

7:00 PM – Rite II Stations of the Cross led by our Parish Clergy with banners presented by our youth acolytes.

7:00 PM – *Children's Stations of the Cross Re-enactment* at COOS - Mandarin on Front Lawn

Holy Saturday – March 22

6:00 PM – Rite II Easter Vigil, with Baptism & Eucharist at COOS - Mandarin

This is the most dramatic and liturgical service of the church year. We will light the new fire and Paschal Candle, baptize new Christians and receive our Easter Communion.

Children's Holy Week Offerings

We hope that you will take advantage of the Children's Holy Week Offerings. They are designed to help children experience a more enriching and joyful Easter.



Children's Tenebrae Service – Wednesday at 7:00 PM

A children's Tenebrae service will be offered in Sunday School classroom 4 to coincide with the adult Tenebrae service in the Sanctuary. This child-friendly service reminds us that even though we experience darkness, Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, is always there for us.

Children's Agape Meal & Footwashing – Thursday at 7:00 PM

A children's Agape meal and foot washing will begin in Sunday School classroom 4 to coincide with the adult Maundy Thursday service. This service is based on Jesus' Last Supper and his instructions to us that we are to love one another as we love ourselves.



Stations of the Cross – Friday at 7:00 PM

A "Stations of the Cross" service will begin on the lawn to coincide with the adult Good Friday service in the Sanctuary. Together we will walk the path that Jesus walked on his way to his crucifixion and resurrection. Through the reenactment by our Youth, narration and prayer we will come to better understand what Good Friday is all about.

Easter Morning Activities for Children

Don't forget Flowers for the Cross

Remember the sadness of the empty cross on Good Friday? We will be creating a new beautiful one on Easter morning to remind us of the joy it now brings. Everyone is encouraged to bring flowers to add to its beauty and glory.

Pictures in front of the Flowered Cross

Make sure you stop by and have your picture taken in front of the beautiful COOS flowered cross. We will send you a copy via e-mail.

Egg Hunt

All children (toddlers – 3rd grade) are invited to participate in our annual Egg Hunt following the 10:30 AM Easter service. Join us in the Great Hall immediately after the service for a lesson, crafts and refreshments while the eggs are hidden. Toddlers will hunt in the fenced area off of the nursery. Kindergarten – 3rd grade will search the lawn. Donations of plastic eggs are always appreciated. Please bring to the office by Palm Sunday (March 16). **Don't forget to bring a basket or bag for the Egg Hunt!**



Watch with Christ

“Couldn't you stay awake and watch with me even one hour?” [Matthew 26:40]

If our Lord asked you this question how would you answer? Before responding, pause a moment and reflect. It seems obvious we would say “Yes” to Him. We already know the outcome of the story. Three times Jesus found his disciples asleep.

Will it be convenient for you to commit to an hour of prayer during the night? Church of Our Saviour offers you this opportunity. We invite you to spend an hour praying and using all your senses to reflect upon the symbols of Jesus' Passion.

**CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR
12236 Mandarin Road**

**Thursday, March 20, 10:00 PM through
12:00 PM on Good Friday**



Holy Week Youth Activities

J2A Class & C.H.A.O.S. will “Watch with Christ” on Maundy Thursday, March 20 starting at 9 PM in the Great Hall until Good Friday morning at 8AM. We will be taking shifts during the overnight prayer vigil in the church.

Youth Club & L.I.F.E. will present Stations of the Cross for our children and families on the Lawn at 7 PM on Good Friday.

Easter Worship Sunday, March 23



6:00 AM – Rite II Sunrise Service on the Riverbank, Contemporary Music. Bring flashlights, lawn chairs and dress warmly.

8:00 AM – Rite I Eucharist in the church *

10:00 AM – Bring flowers for the cross at COOS

10:30 AM – Rite II (two services)

- in the Church: full choir, traditional music, incense *
- on the Riverbank: contemporary music, no incense *

Easter egg hunt following the 10:30 AM service

1:00 PM – Rite I Traditional Eucharist in the Chapel, no music, no incense

*** Nursery available for infants and toddlers**

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
The Lord is Risen indeed, Alleluia!

Missions and Outreach Committee 2007 Results

Each year, the Missions and Outreach committee designates financial support to the missionary efforts of foreign missionaries and local mission projects. Please note that there are no budgeted funds in the COOS Budget — all support is contributed / designated through individuals and projects which support the ministries. Printed below is a summary of the distributions in 2007.

Foreign Missionaries

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| Jonathan Bully | Sudan | \$1,000.00 |
| Michele Perry | Sudan | \$3,000.00 |
| Kevin Mason | Estonia | \$1,500.00 |
| Brent McHugh | Turkey | \$1,500.00 |
| Total for foreign missions | | \$7,000.00 |

Local Organizations

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| City Rescue Mission | \$ 439.43 |
| Jacksonville Campus Ministries | \$ 439.43 |
| Total for Local Missions | \$ 878.86 |
| Grand Total (Foreign + Local) | \$7,878.86 |

2007 Funds applied to Florida Diocese Millennium Development Goal #1 Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Bread for the World | \$ 500.00 |
| CWS/CROP Walk | \$1,600.50 |
| Total Funds applied to MDG #1 | \$2,100.50 |

Our foreign missionaries:

Johnathan Bully is a lay person associated with the Diocese of Kenya working to build a youth center in Darfur Sudan. Funds provided by Rector's discretionary fund

Michele Perry is working with lost, orphaned and at risk children in Yei Sudan. She currently cares for ninety children on rented land and is in the process of building a children's center on land that will be owned by the center.

Kevin Mason, his wife and four children are working in Estonia to reach the countries of Northern Europe who have lost their way. He finds, encourages, inspires, provides training and resources for men and women who desire to participate in planting spontaneously reproducing churches.

Brent McHugh is working in Turkey with his wife and two children establishing churches among the Iranian refugee communities.

Good News from Cuba!



This is the 'new' car that Bishop Tamayo got for Fr. Evelio, priest of our companion parish in Cuba. He's so proud of it! It's parked in front of their

house, and is a "major upgrade" to his previous patched together vehicle.

Mission Commission Contacts

| MINISTRY | CONTACT | EMAIL ADDRESS | PHONE |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Operation Christmas Child | Barbara Byers | barbarabyers1234@msn.com | 886-0170 |
| Feed My Lambs | Barbara Byers | barbarabyers1234@msn.com | 886-0170 |
| I M Sulzbacher | Cynde & Barry Covington | cyndecovington@aol.com | 287-6222 |
| Crop Walk | Jim Kretlow | jimkretlow@bellsouth.net | 886-2640 |
| Missions Committee | Jim Kretlow | jimkretlow@bellsouth.net | 886-2640 |
| Habijax | Jim Meyers | jtmeyers1130@aol.com | 880-6213 |
| Cuba | Diane Kazlauskas | dkazlaus@unf.edu | 262-1253 |
| Prison Ministries | Nolan Gilmore | ngg612@comcast.net | 731-0126 |
| Friends of the Family | Irene and Tony Lane | | |
| Mandarin Food Bank | Vicki Martz | vicki@palmerdesign.com | 268-7492 |
| Youth Missions | Frances Shults | fbshults@aol.com | 268-9457 #18 |
| Weed | Mike Andrews | mike.andrews@iveymechanical.com | 292-1940 |
| St. Mary's | Ed Grey | edgrey@comcast.net | 737-8947 |

News from Your Vestry

Rick Daber – Senior Warden

An Exciting Beginning

The new year for the Vestry of Church of Our Saviour began at the Annual Parish Meeting with a wonderful celebration of the past year in the life of our parish. As a congregation, we are very thankful for the faithful service of those who have completed their vestry terms: Elaine Allen, Diane Kazlauskas, Ron Mallett and George Robbins. We will also miss the presence of Katey Stuart and Mickey Gray who now serve on the newly formed vestry of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church (formerly St. John's Chapel) in Fruit Cove.

One of the first activities at the meeting was to elect new vestry members for terms beginning in 2008; four members to a normal three-year term, one to a two-year term, and one to a one-year term. As result of the election, we have the following new members:

- Duke Addison, Doug Booher, Darby Edwards, Scott Nooney (three year terms)
- Marcia Fallon (two year term)
- Beverly Brown (one year term)

One of our first actions as a vestry was to take a day of retreat on February 2, to outline and discuss what we would like to accomplish during this year and to get to know one another. Part of our time together was spent getting the newly elected members familiar with vestry organization, our annual budget, monthly financial statements, and liaison assignments to the many groups and ministries that make up our parish family (*see page 11 for vestry responsibilities*).

Another topic of discussion during our retreat was to review the results of the Focus Group Meetings that were held during September and October of last year. At the Focus Group Meetings, we invited all members of the congregation into discussion on their views of the past, present, and future of Church of Our Saviour. In total, about 120 people attended the meetings and the Vestry recorded and collected the items discussed. At the Annual Parish Meeting and at our Vestry Retreat we reviewed the thoughts and concerns collected, and we will continue to use them as a guide for our activities throughout the year to come. In all, our retreat was a very productive day and allowed us to get right to work as a team in time for our first monthly vestry meeting on February 19.

Focus Group Results

As mentioned above, the Focus Group Meetings held last Fall provided a great opportunity to discuss many aspects of life at Church of Our Saviour. Each meeting was facilitated by a member of the vestry, and we used a consistent outline at all the meetings that helped center the discussions around four main questions. Here is a summary of the responses given most often for each question:

What Most Excites You About COOS?

- Our strong programs for Youth and youth mission work

- The many outreach ministries and opportunities
- Our friendly, welcoming parish
- Quality Leadership of Our Clergy

What Should be Our Top Priorities for 2008?

- Launch St. Johns Chapel as a parish
- Hire a Director of Music and Music Programs
- Improve communication between the vestry and congregation
- Continue to work toward sound financial status
- Grow opportunities for mission and giving

What Concerns Would You Like to Express?

- Improvements needed to buildings and grounds
- Direction and leadership of national church
- Expand programs for senior members
- Ministry leader burn-out
- Need for more ministry volunteers

Finish the sentence: "I urge the Vestry to consider..."

- Achieve independent parish status for St. Johns Chapel
- Energize our Planned Giving program through the COOS Foundation
- Increase maintenance reserve budget for our buildings and grounds
- Improve Space Utilization

As you know by now, some of these items have already been addressed. Through hard work, prayer, planning, financial support and dedication of many of our members, St. Johns Chapel has been reborn as St. Patrick's Episcopal Church with full parish status in the Diocese of Florida. This represents a glorious accomplishment in the lives of both congregations. As of February 1, we have called Mr. Alan Whitmore (*see page 11*) to join us as our new Director of Music Ministries and we look forward to the expansion of the music programs at Church of Our Saviour.

Some of the other items mentioned above are in the works you will see progress towards them throughout 2008 and beyond. Scott Stanley, our Junior Warden, and Kirk Clendaniel, our Sexton, have several projects underway to improve the beauty and functionality of our buildings and grounds. You will be seeing some of those results in the next few months.

The Vestry is also committed to improve communications to and from the congregation. We will try to use articles similar to this one in the *Word on the Riverbank* to keep you better informed on our actions and concerns. We will also try to arrange for another round of Focus Group Meetings for 2008 as a way to promote the exchange of ideas among all members of our Parish Family.

On behalf of the entire Vestry, I would like to thank you for the trust you have placed in us.

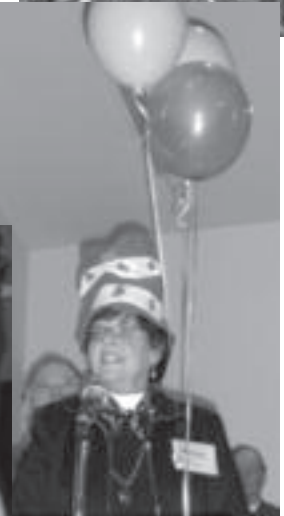
St. John's Chapel is now St. Patrick's Episcopal Church!
Photos from Diocesan Convention, January 26, 2008



It was a joyous day, full of expectation, celebration, silliness and thankful hearts.



The members of St. Patrick's are grateful for the support of COOS for the past 7 years.



St. Patrick's Episcopal Church is formerly the second worship site for Church of Our Saviour. Sunday worship is at 9:30 AM, followed by Christian Formation for all ages. We are located at 1221 State Road 13 in St. Johns. Our phone number is 287-2807, and our web address is www.stpatricksepiscopal.org.

We offer a community of faith welcoming all people, building relationships, reaching out, and becoming who God empowers us to be.



2008 Vestry Liaison Assignments (Listed by Foundation)

Community of Faith

Marsa Beck, Doug Booher

*Worship, Christian Education,
Music, Opportunities to Grow in our
Faith*

Family of God

Zac Penn, Beverly Brown

*Activities and Programs to provide
fellowship and strengthen our
parish family.*

Church on Holy Ground – Scott Stanley, Duke Addison

*Provide and Maintain physical
facilities of the Church, present and
future.*

Partners in Ministry & Mission

Pete Gentry, Marcia Fallon

*Programs for Mission and Ministry
to others, locally and throughout the
world.*

Evangelists to the World

**Konnie Kretlow, Darby
Edwards**

*Bringing Others to Christ and His
Church.*

Stewards of God

Rick Daber, Scott Nooney

*Stewardship, Financial Planning for
the Future.*

Meet Alan Whitmore, Director of Music Ministry!

Alan Whitmore joined the Church of our Saviour staff as Director of Music Ministry on February 1, 2008.

Born in British Columbia, the most western province of Canada, Alan is the son of a United Church of Canada minister and a school teacher/musician which was a contributor to his love of worship and music. Alan holds dual membership in the United Church of Canada which he says is a combination between Methodist and Presbyterians and in the Anglican (Episcopal) Church of Canada. He has worked in both of these denominations extensively with responsibilities that included all facets of the ministry of music.



In just a few weeks, Alan has come to appreciate Church of Our Saviour.

"I love the ministry vision of this parish", Alan said. "I love the people, the staff and the physical beauty of the location almost equally."

His favorite scriptures are found in Psalm 42 and in the twenty-second chapter of Mathew, verses 34-40. Those verses are what are referred to as the Great Commandment and encourage us to love our neighbors as ourselves.

"I love making new friends (neighbors) and learning more about them and how we can worship God together", he continued.

Alan's wife, Denise, is also his best friend and he looks forward to sharing her with Church of Our Saviour. Their family also includes five children, 11 grandchildren and two great grandchildren as well as a cat whose name is Mimi and who is very much like our feline "parishioner", Waldo.

We welcome Alan to our parish and look forward to his ministry as he works alongside our clergy to encourage us in our spiritual journeys as we worship through music, prayers and liturgy.

COOS Staff

COOS main office – 268-9457 • Fax – 260-8350

The Rev. John Palarine, Rector, Ext. 11

The Rev. Mark Atkinson, Associate Rector, Ext. 24

Gina Barber, Housekeeper

Joanne Blalock, Parish Secretary, Ext. 10

Billy Claytor, Director of Contemporary Music

Kirk Clendaniel, Building Supervisor, Ext. 33

Diane Gates, Office Assistant, Ext. 15

Pam Gillis, Children's Ministry Coordinator, Ext. 23

Becky Janes, Bookkeeper, Ext. 12

Frances Shults, Director of Youth Ministries, Ext. 18

Alan Whitmore, Director of Music Ministries, Ext. 14

A graphic with a white background and a black border. It features a dove icon in a heart shape in the top left and bottom right corners. The text in the center reads: "Mark your calendars! Sunday, May 11 we will be FIRED UP WITH THE SPIRIT as we celebrate Pentecost, Confirmation & Mother's Day! You won't want to miss!"

Mark your calendars!
Sunday, May 11
we will be
FIRED UP WITH THE SPIRIT
as we celebrate
Pentecost,
Confirmation &
Mother's Day!
You won't want to miss!

Wednesday Evening Lenten Series Draws Large Crowds



The Lenten series “Faith in Life” consistently drew large crowds as they gathered for dinner, music & worship, and inspiring messages. At right, Bishop Howard shares about the power of reconciliation in his life.



While the adults gathered in the Great Hall, children learning about the Gospel from Dr. Seuss, and youth were listening to God through the movies.

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The vision of the Church of Our Saviour is to be an ever-growing center for worship, spiritual growth and support for our parish family and the community by utilizing the beauty of the location and the talents of our dedicated members; and to be a leader in service, outreach, and mission as we go forth from this Holy Ground in the name of Jesus Christ.
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The Word on the Riverbank

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